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ABSTRACT

In an effort to develop programs to meet school-age child care needs in southeastern Pennsylvania, a study was conducted to identify issues and needs as perceived by public school officials in the region. Superintendents and elementary school principals from 61 suburban school districts were surveyed, and 170, or 51 percent, responded. A total of 99 percent of the respondents felt that elementary school students should be supervised before and after school hours, and 86 percent perceived growth in the number of unsupervised children. Results also showed that 73 percent thought that school facilities should be used to provide school-age child care services, and 85 percent felt that school-based programs should be operated by nonschool groups in collaboration with the schools. Parents were cited most frequently (by 25% of the respondents) as being responsible for paying for child care services. Costs and lack of space were the most frequently cited barriers to school-age child care services. Of the 61 districts, 46 indicated that programs in their community served their students. Transportation to community-based programs was provided by 22 districts. In the 19 districts that had programs located in their schools, only 2 programs were operated by the schools themselves. Most programs were supported by parent fees ranging from $10 to $36 weekly for before- or after-school care only, and from $12 to $108 weekly for both before- and after-school care. Responses by county are detailed. (AC)

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DELAWARE VALLEY CHILD CARE COUNCIL DVCCC

SCHOOL AGE CHILD CARE: OPINIONS FROM SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS

REGIONAL REPORT

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Delaware Valley Child Care Council

SCHOOL AGE CHILD CARE RESEARCH PROJECT

July, 1989

Funded by

Southeastern School Age Child Care Project

of

Day Care Association of Montgomery County, Inc.

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Introduction

The purpose of this project was to understand the needs for, and barriers to, School Age Child Care Services from the perspective of School Districts. Since public schools actually provide the majority of child care services for working parents by virtue of their hours and number of children enrolled, school systems have been serving the needs of working parents for many years. However, as the result of the growth of single parent families and employed two-parent families, recent attention has been focused on the problem of "latchkey children" and the increased need for school age child care services.

It is estimated that millions of children in the United States take care of themselves for some of the hours before and after school and on days that schools are closed. In Southeastern Pennsylvania, we know that there are 118,000 children, ages 6 through 12, whose mothers are employed outside the home.

This project is based on the assumptions:

- Public school administrators are the single group of experts about school age children because of their experience with this population.
- Public school systems could play a key role in the development of the emerging field of School Age Child Care since they already serve a "child care role" for employed parents.

In order to develop programs to meet the needs of the increasing number of parents who are employed outside the home, the logical starting point was to identify issues and needsperceived by public school systems in this region. It was our hope to understand if school officials believe schools can respond to school age child care needs. In addition, the purpose of this project was to uncover the child care needs of each district while identifying specific barriers that may limit school age programs.

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Although school systems are the experts when it comes to school age child care issues, this does not designate responsibility for school age child care programs. Given the phenomenon of "latchkey children" and the solution of "School Age Child Care Services", there is much confusion about the responsibility for the problem and the potential options for solving the problem.

School age child care problems do not have a single solution, nor should schools be perceived as the single solution. School age child care programs fall into three categories:

1. Located in schools and operated by the public school system.

2. Located in school buildings and operated by another organization.

3. Located in the community operated by private non-profit or for-profit organizations.

The original intent was to survey the sixty-two school districts in the five-county Southeastern Pennsylvania region. However, sixty-one school districts representing 272 elementary schools in the four county suburban counties were surveyed. Philadelphia County with its single school district, seven district superintendents, and 130 elementary schools were not included. Given the size of the Philadelphia School District and its single administration, it was not possible to survey Philadelphia district superintendents and elementary school principals within the six-month time frame of this project. (See Appendix C for Philadelphia School District.)

This survey of school district superintendents and elementary school principals from sixty-one school districts was undertaken by the Delaware Valley Child Care Council in collaboration with, and at the request of the Day Care Association of Montgomery County, Inc. The Day Care Association of Montgomery County is a non-profit day care provider under contract with the Pennsylvania Department of Public Welfare to administer school age child care funding in this region. The Delaware Valley Child Care Council is a regional non-profit partnership of businesses, parents, child care professionals, and local and state governments that serves as a catalyst and problem-solving forum for the development of accessible and quality child care services.

This project could not have been conducted without the financial and technical support from the Southeastern Pennsylvania School Age Child Care Project of the Day Care Association of Montgomery County, Inc. The encouragement of Stephen H. Peeples, Project Director of the Southeastern Pennsylvania School Age Child Care Project was invaluable. Without his flexibility and willing tutorials on computer software, this project could not have been undertaken.

Janet L. Mintzer
School Age Project Director

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Summary of Findings

The compilation of responses (51%) from the Superintendents and Elementary School Principals in the four suburban Philadelphia counties yielded the following information:

IS THERE A NEED FOR SCHOOL AGE CHILD CARE?

Elementary school students should be supervised before and after school hours. (99%)

There is a growing number of unsupervised children. (86%)

There is a need for School Age Child Care Services. (70%)

IS THERE A ROLE, IF ANY, FOR PUBLIC SCHOOLS IN MEETING THE NEED FOR SCHOOL AGE CHILD CARE SERVICES?

24% thought that school based programs should be provided by the school itself.

73% thought that school facilities should be utilized.

85% thought that school based programs should be operated by other groups in collaboration with the schools.

38% thought that schools could play a role in providing space.

The specific roles identified were:

- 18% - providing free space for a program
- 20% - renting space to a program
- 12% - providing supplies for the program
- 18% - allowing use of school equipment for the program
- 15% - providing transportation to the program
- 17% - liaison between program and home

WHO IS RESPONSIBLE FOR SCHOOL AGE CHILD CARE SERVICES?

Parents were cited most frequently (25%) as responsible for paying for child care services. Yet, no single funding source was clearly identified.

The specific resources identified were:

19% - county
20% - state
19% - federal
25% - parents
17% - school districts

Parents were identified the most frequently (19%) as being responsible for developing child care programs. When grouping the responses checked for social service organizations and private child care agencies, 35% of the respondents thought community agencies should be responsible for developing school age child care. Again, there was no clear consensus that a specific group is responsible:

19% - parent/parent groups
16% - school districts
14% - county government
17% - social service organizations
18% - private child care agencies
16% - employers

WHAT ARE THE DISADVANTAGES AND BARRIERS TO SCHOOL AGE CHILD CARE SERVICES?

Funding sources/costs and lack of space in school buildings were the two most frequently cited problems.

WHAT EXISTS NOW?

- 46 out of 61 school districts state programs exist in the community to service their students.
- The capacity of the 46 programs could not be obtained since many also serve preschool children.

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- 22 of 61 districts reportedly provide transportation to community-based programs.
- 19 out of 61 districts have programs located in their schools.
- 2 of these 19 school districts operate the program themselves.
- 20 out of 61 school districts report that there are school age child care programs to serve special needs children.
- Most programs are supported by parent fees ranging from $10 to $36 weekly for before or after-school care only, and $12 to $108 weekly for both before and after-school care including holidays.

Conclusions

Since school officials overwhelmingly acknowledge that elementary school students should be supervised before and after school and perceive a growing number of unsupervised children, clearly school officials see a need for school age child care services.

Although school officials reported programs that currently serve school age children, it is obvious that existing programs do not meet the need for school age child care services. Some districts did not report any programs at all, while other districts repeatedly reported the same program. Many districts reported programs that exist in the community, yet less than half of the districts reported providing transportation to and from the programs. Since the capacity of reported programs could not be obtained, it is difficult to assess what portion of the need for school age child care services is being met. Most importantly, however, is the fact that while school officials identified programs that provide school age child care services, 70% identified, at the same time, that there is presently a need for school age child care services at their schools.

The majority of those surveyed agree that schools should play a role in school age child care, and most believe that school facilities should be utilized and that school-based programs should be provided by outside groups in collaboration with the school system. However, "in collaboration with others" presents a vague role. Nevertheless, it is clear school officials feel their involvement with school age child care is necessary and that outside groups should utilize school facilities to provide school age child care services.

When school officials were asked to identify the role schools should play in meeting the need for school age child care services, the utilization of building space was the overwhelming response. However, when school officials were asked to identify disadvantages and barriers to providing school age child care services, a lack of space was clearly identified. Perhaps school administrators perceive a totally separate space as a prerequisite to a school age child care program rather than a sharing of existing space. This is a possibility that could be explored further. Nevertheless, the most specific role schools identified, the use of school space, is ambiguous since the lack of space is seen as a major barrier to implementing programs.

Even though school officials admit a need for school age child care and believe schools should be involved with school age services, they often selected others to be responsible for school age child care. For example, although there are few percentage point differences among the groups that school officials selected to be responsible for the cost and development of school age programs, school districts are at the bottom of scale. In addition, the majority of school officials did not want the responsibility of operating school-based programs but preferred to have others assume this responsibility.

The fact that school officials often selected others to be responsible for school age child care coupled with various comments made by principals and superintendents on the survey form indicate that the thought of extra duties may have prevented school officials from accepting more responsibility. One principal commented, "As principal of a school of 500 K-5 pupils, more and more responsibilities are being dumped in our laps. Teacher Unions have been effective in insulating teachers from extra duties. The principals have no union..." A district superintendent commented, "The public school system should not become involved in child care programs. We cannot cope with our present programs--high teacher union contracts, assessment appeals, etc." Furthermore, "staffing", which would require time and effort, was a major concern of school administrators. Staffing is a vague term, and we could not identify whether staffing disadvantages were related to recruitment, financing, retention of staff, or all of those problems associated with additional duties and hours for employees. Staffing was ranked as the third disadvantage to implementing school age child care.

School officials also may have been hesitant to accept more responsibility for school age child care, because they believe the responsibility for child care belongs first to the parent. For example, "Accepting parental responsibility" was listed as adisadvantage to providing school age child care services. In particular, one principal commented, "The nuturing and raising of children must be the parents' responsibility, not some outside agency!! Our value system is slipping...If a couple is not committed to the time and money required to have and raise children, they shouldn't have children". Another principal stated clearly, "I believe we need to address the issue of responsible parenting even though this may be naive."

A district superintendent put it this way, "Parents should lower their standard of living and take care of their own child care problems." Obviously, there is still some resistance to parents who are employed and require child care services.

School age child care services are complex, because there are actually two clients, parent and child. The responsibility of schools has always been to deliver education to children, not parents. School age child care services are needed because parents are not available. As a result, school age child care is often thought of as a service to working parents more than to children. As one principal put it, "This (child care) is a good idea and is of real service to working parents, however, it is a shame that those children have such a long day at school. This is, of course, better than the children being home alone. Sign of the times!"

School age child care is a complex issue. There are no road maps or definite answers to confront the growing need for school age services. Nevertheless, school systems can play a key role in the development of school age child care services. To begin, school age child care needs to be recognized by each school board as a service to children first, and parents second. School officials agree that schools are a logical place for school age care to occur, and each school district must begin to evaluate their need and the options that exist within their school buildings and in their immediate community. Parents can help but will need the school district to establish unity. Outside agencies can provide the programs, but the schools must define their liaison role with agencies and parents. Because options are unlimited, each school district can and should develop a unique model that best meets the need of their community.

SUBURBAN REGIONAL FINDINGS

IS THERE A NEED FOR SCHOOL AGE CHILD CARE?

Principals and District Superintendents of Bucks, Chester, Delaware, and Montgomery Counties overwhelmingly agree that there is a need for school age child care. 99% of all respondents agreed that elementary school children should have adult supervision when not in school even if they have survival skills. 86% reported a growing number of children often unsupervised while not in school. In addition, when asked specifically about the need for school age child care in the school/s they served, 70% of all respondents reported a need for school age child care to serve their school/s.

Families with two parents working outside the home as well as single-parent families were acknowledged as a growing phenomenon by 96% to 97% of all respondents suggesting social change in the family has contributed to the need for school age child care. In addition, 43% of all respondents agree that the lack of school age child care is a MAJOR contributor to poor performance in school.

SHOULD SCHOOLS BECOME INVOLVED WITH SCHOOL AGE CHILD CARE?

Overall, more suburban area elementary school principals and school district superintendents agree that schools should play a role in school age child care rather than not becoming involved.

Although 73% of all respondents believe that elementary school facilities should be utilized for school age child care, only 24% believe school based programs should be provided by the school itself. In addition, 85% of all respondents think that school based child care programs should be provided by other groups, agencies, or institutions in collaboration with the school system.

When the elementary school principals and district superintendents were asked to identify what the school's role in school age child care should include from a prioritized list, renting space to a program received the highest response with providing free space and allowing the use of school equipment an even second. In addition, when they were asked if there were more advantages than disadvantages for schools to have school age child care programs, 73% of all respondents said that there are more advantages.

Although schoool officials most frequently selected parents to be responnsible for the development of school age programs; only one percentage point separated parents from private child care agencies. One percentage point separated private child ccare agencies from social service organizations, and conly one percent separated social service organizations from school districts. Clearly, there is a very fine line betweeen who school officials believe should be responsible for ddeveloping school age programs. (See Response for Questioon 16)

Similarly, pareents were most frequently selected to be responsible for the cost of school age child care programs. Here again, a veryy fine line separated those who school officials believe shhould provide the resources for school age programs. Five peercentage points separated parents from state government, aand only one percent separated state from county and federal governments. (See Response for Question 15)

WHAT ARE THE DISADVANTAGES AND BARRIERS AFFECTING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF SCHOOL AGE CHILD CARE PROGRAMS?

The cost of school age child care is the major concern of suburban area school officials. When asked to prioritize a list of major barriers, funding was ranked the number one obstacle to the implementation of school age child care programs. In addition, there was an open-ended question that permitted respondents to list disadvantages to school age child care. The responses listed cost-related issues as the major disadvantage to providing school age child care. (See Response for Question 19 Disadvantages)

The lack of space is also viewed as an obstacle to starting school age child care programs in suburban area schools. The "lack of space" received the highest response rate when respondents were asked to identify disadvantages. In addition, when asked to rank order major barriers, the lack of space closely followed funding.

Staffing school age child care programs is also a concern of suburban area school officials. "Staffing" received the third highest response rate when respondents were asked to identify disadvantages and was ranked as the third barrier affecting the implementation of school age child care programs.

WHAT PRESENTLY EXISTS?

Nineteen out of the sixty-one suburban school districts reported school age child care programs that utilize space within school buildings. However, only two school districts actually operate school age child care programs. Seventeen school districts, however, reported programs operated by other agencies that utilize school building space.

On the other hand, 75% of all responding principals reported that there were school age child care programs located outside of the schools serving their students. However, only 36% of all responding principals reported that their school district provided transportation to and from these programs. Specifically, twenty-two out of sixty-one school districts reportedly provide transportation to and from school age child care programs.

When suburban area school officials were asked if there were school age child care programs serving "special needs" children, i.e., children who may have physical, cognitive, or emotional disabilities, only twenty* programs were reported. Eighteen programs were reportedly for "disabilities only" children and seven programs reportedly are "mainstream".

In addition, a provider survey was developed to obtain specific information about existing school age programs within the region that were identified by responding school officials. (See Appendix B)

* Discrepancy noted

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DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE

	# Sent	# Returned	Return Rate
4 County Totals			
Superintendents	61	44	72%
Principals	272	126	46%
TOTALS	333	170	51%
Bucks County			
Superintendents	13	10	77%
Principals	78	32	41%
TOTALS	91	42	46%
Chester County			
Superintendents	12	8	67%
Principals	49	21	43%
TOTALS	61	29	48%
Delaware County			
Superintendents	15	12	80%
Principals	59	25	42%
TOTALS	74	37	50%
Montgomery County			
Superintendents	21	14	67%
Principals	86	48	56%
TOTALS	107	62	58%

Reported Enrollment

Bucks County

52% of Bucks County respondents reported an increase in enrollment over the last three years, while only 10% reported that enrollment had decreased. In addition, 64% anticipate an increase in enrollment over the next three years.

Chester County

86% of Chester County respondents reported an increase in enrollment over the last three years. In addition, 100% anticipate an increase in enrollment over the next three years. This was high in comparison to other counties.

Delaware County

38% of Delaware County respondents reported an increase in enrollment over the last three years, while only 16% reported that enrollment had decreased. In addition, 61% anticipate an increase in enrollment over the next three years. This was low in comparison to other counties.

Montgomery County

55% of Montgomery County respondents reported an increase in enrollment over the last three years, while only 10% reported that enrollment had decreased. In addition, 79% anticipate an increase in enrollment over the next three years.

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Responses to Questionnaire

1. IN MY SCHOOL, A GROWING NUMBER OF CHILDREN ARE OFTEN UNSUPERVISED WHILE NOT IN SCHOOL:

	Total	Bucks	Chester	Delaware	Montgomery
Agree	86%	88%	90%	78%	88%
Disagree	10%	12%	10%	8%	10%

2. ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CHILDREN SHOULD HAVE ADULT SUPERVISION WHEN NOT IN SCHOOL EVEN IF THEY HAVE SURVIVAL SKILLS.

	Total	Bucks	Chester	Delaware	Montgomery
Agree	99%	100%	100%	97%	100%
Disagree	1%			3%	

3. WHENEVER POSSIBLE AND FEASIBLE, ELEMENTARY SCHOOL FACILITIES SHOULD BE UTILIZED FOR SCHOOL AGE CHILD CARE.

	Total	Bucks	Chester	Delaware	Montgomery
Agree	73%	60%	71%	75%	79%
Disagree	24%	38%	14%	25%	17%

4. SCHOOL BASED CHILD CARE PROGRAMS BE PROVIDED BY THE SCHOOL ITSELF.

	Total	Bucks	Chester	Delaware	Montgomery
Agree	24%	15%	83%	30%	35%
Disagree	74%	83%	14%	70%	62%

5. SCHOOL BASED CHILD CARE PROGRAMS SHOULD BE PROVIDED BY OTHER GROUPS, AGENCIES, OR INSTITUTIONS IN COLLABORATION WITH THE SCHOOL SYSTEM.

	Total	Bucks	Chester	Delaware	Montgomery
Agree	85%	80%	93%	81%	86%
Disagree	14%	10%	0	19%	13%

6. SCHOOL SYSTEMS SHOULD NOT BECOME INVOLVED WITH SCHOOL AGE CHILD CARE.

	Total	Bucks	Chester	Delaware	Montgomery
Agree	31%	37%	24%	32%	31%
Disagree	64%	56%	70%	68%	65%

7. IN MY SCHOOL, A GROWING NUMBER OF FAMILIES HAVE TWO PARENTS WORKING OUTSIDE OF THE HOME.

	Total	Bucks	Chester	Delaware	Montgomery
Agree	97%	100%	100%	86%	98%
Disagree	2%			5%	2%

8. IN MY SCHOOL, THERE ARE A GROWING NUMBER OF SINGLE PARENT FAMILIES WITH THE PARENT WORKING OUTSIDE OF THE HOME.

	Total	Bucks	Chester	Delaware	Montgomery
Agree	96%	95%	97%	89%	100%
Disagree	2%	95%	3%	3%	

9. THE LACK OF SCHOOL AGE CHILD CARE IS A MAJOR CONTRIBUTOR TO POOR PERFORMANCE IN SCHOOL.

	Total	Bucks	Chester	Delaware	Montgomery
Agree	43%	46%	46%	46%	38%
Disagree	45%	50%	39%	31%	46%
Undecided	20%	5%	14%	11%	16%

10. THERE IS A NEED FOR SCHOOL AGE CHILD CARE AT MY SCHOOL.

	Total	Bucks	Chester	Delaware	Montgomery
Agree	70%	68%	86%	64%	68%
Disagree	23%	27%	14%	31%	31%

11. THERE ARE MORE ADVANTAGES THAN DISADVANTAGES FOR OUR SCHOOL TO HAVE SCHOOL AGE CHILD CARE PROGRAMS.

	Total	Bucks	Chester	Delaware	Montgomery
Agree	73%	59%	78%	80%	77%
Disagree	23%	36%	22%	17%	18%

12. WHAT ARE THE MAJOR ADVANTAGES OR DISADVANTAGES? (for school to have school age child care programs) PLEASE LIST:

% of Responses

Advantantages	Total	Bucks	Ches.	Delaw.	Mont.
Assist Parents	7%	7%	6%	4%	10%
Control/Coor.Prog	9%	3%	6%	6%	13%
Safe/Secure Envir	15%	13%	17%	12%	16%
ProperSupervision	18%	24%	19%	12%	19%
Location	10%	3%	3%	16%	11%
Social Opportunity	3%	0	3%	2%	5%
Educational Envir	5%	7%	6%	4%	4%
Structure	5%	10%	8%	2%	4%
Other	29%	31%	33%	43%	18%

Disadvantages					
Cost	20%	24%	14%	17%	23%
AdditionalDuties	5%	6%	4%	13%	2%
Lack of Space	22%	18%	28%	8%	28%
AssumParentRespon	7%	6%	14%	4%	5%
Maintenance	4%	6%	0	8%	2%
LiabilityConcerns	2%	0	0	0	7%
Staffing	15%	15%	10%	17%	16%
AssumSocietyProbl	2%	3%	3%	0	2%
Length of Day	6%	9%	7%	8%	2%
RestrictsBldg.Use	2%	6%	0	0	0
Other	15%	9%	21%	25%	12%

13. DURING THE LAST THREE YEARS, ENROLLMENT AT MY SCHOOL HAS:

% of Responses

	Increased	Remained Steady	Decreased
Total	56%	35%	10%
Bucks County	52%	40%	7%
Chester County	86%	10%	3%
Delaware County	38%	46%	16%
Montgomery County	55%	35%	10%

14. WE DO ANTICIPATTE AN INCREASE IN ENROLLMENT OVER THE NEXT THREE YEARS:

% of Responses

	Yes	No
Total	75%	25%
Bucks County	64%	36%
Chester County	100%	
Delaware County	61%	39%
Montgomery County	79%	21%

15. RESOURCES TO PROVIDE SCHOOL AGE CHILD CARE PROGRAMS SHOULD COME FROM:

% of Responses

Sch.Dist.	County	State	Federal	Parents	
Total (170)	19%	20%	19%	25%	17%
Bucks Co.	19%	19%	19%	29%	14%
Chester Co.	18%	22%	20%	25%	16%
Delaware Co.	17%	20%	19%	27%	17%
Montgomery Co.	19%	20%	19%	24%	19%

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16. DEVELOPING SCHOOL AGE CHILD CARE PROGRAMS IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF:

% of Responses

	Parents	Sch.Dist.	County	Soc.Ser.	Child Care	Employer
Total	19%	16%	14%	17%	18%	16%
Bucks Co	21%	14%	14%	17%	19%	16%
Chester	18%	14%	16%	19%	17%	17%
Delaware	19%	16%	13%	19%	18%	14%
Montgom	19%	17%	13%	16%	18%	16%

17. THE SCHOOL'S ROLE IN SCHOOL AGE CHILD CARE SHOULD INCLUDE:

% of Responses

	FreeSpace	RentSpace	Supplies	UseEquip.	Transp	Liaison
Total	18%	20%	12%	18%	15%	17%
Bucks Co	20%	21%	9%	18%	11%	21%
Chester	19%	21%	11%	20%	13%	16%
Delaware	15%	22%	13%	19%	17%	15%
Montgom	17%	18%	13%	16%	17%	17%

18. WHO IN YOUR SCHOOL WOULD BE MOST KNOWLEDGEABLE ABOUT SCHOOL AGE CHILD CARE ISSUES?

% of Responses

	Superint	H/S Coord	PTA/PTO	Principal	Teachers	Couns
Total	16%	12%	15%	22%	17%	19%
Bucks Co.	15%	11%	16%	22%	18%	18%
Chester	15%	12%	16%	21%	16%	22%
Delaware	17%	9%	15%	23%	17%	18%
Montgom	16%	13%	15%	21%	17%	19%

19. THE MAJOR BARRIERS EFFECTING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF SCHOOL AGE CHILD CARE PROGRAMS IN MY SCHOOL ARE:

% of Responses

	Fund	No Spac	Bldg Used	Tran	Staf	P/ Need	P/ Pay	No Need	No Support
Total	16%	15%	8%	11%	12%	9%	10%	10%	9%
Bucks County	18%	15%	9%	10%	12%	11%	9%	9%	7%
Chester County	16%	14%	7%	12%	11%	9%	10%	10%	10%
Delaware	16%	16%	8%	12%	11%	9%	10%	8%	9%
Montgomery	16%	14%	7%	11%	13%	8%	11%	10%	11%

Fund = funding of program
No Spac = lack of space
Bldg Used = facility used for private programs
Tran = transportation
Staf = staffing
P/Need = parent's perception of need
P/Pay = parent's ability to pay
No Need = school age child care not recognized as a need
No Support = no school board support

20. LOCATED IN MY SCHOOL, THERE IS A SCHOOL AGE CHILD CARE PROGRAM.

	Yes	No	No Response
Total	37	47	42
Bucks County	4	13	15
Chester County	8	4	9
Delaware County	5	13	7
Montgomery Co.	20	17	11

21. LOCATED OUTSIDE OF MY SCHOOL, THERE ARE SCHOOL AGE CHILD CARE PROGRAMS SERVING STUDENTS FROM MY SCHOOL.

	Yes	No	Don'tKnow	No Response
Total	94	6	3	23
Bucks County	28	1	1	2
Chester County	9	2	0	10
Delaware County	19	3	0	3
Montgomery Co.	38	0	2	8

DELAWARE VALLEY CHILD CARE COUNCIL

Special Needs Children

1. ARE THERE SCHOOL AGE CHILD CARE PROGRAMS SERVING YOUR SCHOOL OR DISTRICT SPECIFICALLY DESIGNED FOR SPECIAL NEEDS CHILDREN? (BY "SPECIAL NEEDS" WE ARE CONCERNED WITH CHILDREN WHO HAVE PHYSICAL, COGNITIVE, OR EMOTIONAL DISABILITIES)

	Yes	No	Don'tKnow	No Response
Total	20	116	11	23
Bucks County	4	29	2	7
Chester County	3	18	4	4
Delaware County	2	25	1	9
Montgomery Co.	11*	44	4	3

IF YES, PLEASE ANSWER THE FOLLOWING:
THE SPECIAL NEEDS CHILD CARE PROGRAMS SERVE:

	Disabilities Only	Mainstream Program
Total	18	7
Bucks County	2	2
Chester County	3	0
Delaware County	3	0
Montgomery County	10*	5*

*Discrepancy noted

The Delaware Valley Child Care Council is a non-profit partnership of businesses, local and state governments, parents, child care providers and unions that serves as a catalyst and problem-solving forum for child day care issues. We are dedicated to eliminating the barriers to accessible and quality child care services. As a non-profit corporation, contributions are welcome.